

## REMARKS

In the second non-final Office action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the step of "processing said image data . . ." is not sufficient to constitute a tangible result since the outcome of the processing step is not used in a disclosed practical application nor made available in such a manner that its usefulness in a disclosed practical application can be realized. Dependent claims 3-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if the base claim were rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claims 11, 12 and 15-28 are allowed.

In response to the 101 rejection, claim 1 was amended to exclude the final processing step and include a final step of -- detecting said contaminants on said window surface from said image data --. The detecting step of amended claim 1 recites a final result achieved by the claimed invention which is "useful, tangible, and concrete", and, thus, complies with 35 U.S.C. 101. Dependent claim 5 was amended to render the recitation thereof consistent with the amendment of claim 1. No other further amendments were made to the claims in the instant response. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of amended claim 1 be withdrawn and that claims 1 and 3-10 be allowed.

Applicants acknowledge the examiner's proposed amendment of claim 1 using the recitation of dependent claim 18, but consider the proposed amendment overly restrictive:

The remaining claims 11, 12 and 15-28 were allowed.

In view of the above, the instant application is in condition for allowance and an early issuance thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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